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PATENT APPLICATION

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER ART UNIT 2625**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Seiji IINO et al.

Group Art Unit: 2625

Application No.: 10/660,593

Examiner: Y. QIN

Filed: September 12, 2003

Docket No.: 117101

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the August 26, 2008 Office Action, the shortened statutory period for reply being extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, reconsideration of the application based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives by Examiner Garcia in the December 11 telephone interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the telephone interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. The Office Action, on page 2, rejects claims 1, 2, 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0059337 to Takaoka et al. (hereinafter "Takaoka"). The Office Action, on page 5, rejects claims 3, 9-13, 16, 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takaoka in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,737,620 to Sato. The Office